



KENTUCKY BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS

Andy Beshear
Governor

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Shawn Oak
Chair

MEMORANDUM FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Marriage and Family Therapy Associates, and Applicants
FROM: Kentucky Board of Licensure for Marriage and Family Therapists
RE: Executive Order 2020-243
DATE: March 31, 2020

This memorandum is to provide clarification on issues regarding telehealth services:

1. Our Emergency Regulation was signed by the Governor and has been filed with the Legislative Research Commission. As of March 31, 2020 all Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists and Marriage and Family Therapy Associates may perform services by telehealth.
2. In our special called meeting on March 31, 2020, in accordance with State of Emergency orders and guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) received by the Governor's Office on March 24, 2020, the Board has suspended the 15-hour training for telehealth required in 201 KAR 32:110E Section 3.
3. The Board has also suspended 201 KAR 32:110E, Section 3(1) requiring supervisors of Associates conducting telehealth to complete the 15-hour training.
4. In accordance with Orders issued in this State of Emergency and guidance from HHS, during the State of Emergency, the Board has suspended 201 KAR 32:110E, Section 8(1) requiring compliance with HIPAA and HITECH regarding telehealth.

5. The Board has received many questions regarding if Continuing Education training is required in order to provide “clinical supervision” via telecommunication. During the State of Emergency under Executive Order 2020-215, supervision may be conducted online. No continuing education is required to supervise.

The suspensions of certain provisions listed in this Memorandum will only be in effect during the declared State of Emergency for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Upon the expiration or rescission of the State of Emergency, licensees and therapists practicing telehealth and licensees supervising associates practicing telehealth who have not had the 15-hour training will be required to do so. Licensees who are supervising associates providing telehealth services who have not completed 15 hours of board-approved training are encouraged to complete the training as soon as possible and familiarize themselves with the telehealth regulation. Upon the expiration or rescission of the State of Emergency, those practicing telehealth will be required to once again comply with all privacy laws and regulations. Upon the expiration or rescission of the State of Emergency, supervision will again be required to be face-to-face with the patient under 201 KAR 32:035, Section 3. More information will be distributed upon the expiration or rescission of the State of emergency.

Should you have any questions please contact the Board Administrator, Tiler Hahn, at MFT@ky.gov.

Sincerely,



Shawn Oak, Ph.D., LMFT
Chair